





## Intimations.

## VICTORIA DISPENSARY.

## FLUID EXTRACT OF MALT.

THE use of that extremely valuable Food and Remedy EXTRACT OF MALT has been retarded by its usually vapid condition; to obviate this objection we have prepared a FLUID EXTRACT OF MALT as easily poured out of the bottle and measured into doses as any other Fluid.

It contains as much of the DIASTASE as any vapid EXTRACT OF MALT and is therefore fully as active in tissue forming and digestive power.

Two tablespoonfuls of our FLUID EXTRACT OF MALT contain more nutritive and digestive value than a pint of the strongest Ale or Stout. In 1lb. bottles 75 cents. Per dozen \$8.00. Hongkong, 12th January, 1893.

## A. S. WATSON &amp; CO., LD.

## WINES AND SPIRITS.

WE invite attention to the following Brands, all of which are excellent quality and good value for the money. The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in word and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best growth at the moderate prices. In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quality of Wine or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general Use).

	Per Case	Per Bottle
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule.....	\$10	\$1.00
B. Vintage, superior quality, Red Capsule.....	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule.....	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled).....	18	1.50

## SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule.....	6	0.60
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule.....	7.50	0.75
C. Maconville, Pale Natural Sherry, White Capsule.....	10	1.00
CC. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal Capsule.....	10	1.00
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old wine, White Seal Capsule.....	12	1.10
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled).....	14	1.25

## CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule.....	4	4.50
B. St. Julien, Red Capsule.....	4.50	5.00
C. St. Julien, Red Capsule.....	7	7.50
D. La Rose, Red Capsule.....	11	12.00
E. Sainte Foy, Red Capsule.....	5	5.50
F. Cossac, Red Capsule.....	8	8.50
G. Chateau d'Anglade, Red Capsule.....	12	12.50
H. Chateau Haut Bijon Laroque, Red Capsule.....	17	18.00
I. Chateau Mouton d'Armailhacq, Red Capsule.....	19	20.00

## HOCKS.

Nierstein.....	12	—
Hockheimer.....	20	—
Rudesheimer.....	24	—

## BURGUNDIES.

Chablis, white wine.....	12	—
Meursault, superior white wine.....	16	—
Volnay, very superior red wine.....	19	20.00

## MADEIRA AND CHAMPAGNES.

## FULL PARTICULARS OF VARIOUS BRANDS ON APPLICATION.

## BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule.....	13	1.20
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule.....	15	1.40
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule.....	20	1.75
D. Hennessy's Fine Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule.....	30	3.50

## WHISKY.

## SCOTCH.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Capsule.....	8	0.75
B. Watson's Glenorchy Mellow Blend, Blue Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
C. Watson's Aboulin-Glenorchy Blend, with Name and Trade Mark.....	8	0.75
D. Watson's H.K. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule.....	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule.....	12	1.10
F. Daniel Crawford's Finest Very Old Scotch Whisky.....	10	1.00

## AMERICAN.

Genuine Bourbon Whisky, Fine Old, Red Capsule, with our Name & Trade Mark.....	10	1.00
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## GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
B. Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule.....	4.50	0.40
C. Fine A. V. H. Geneva.....	5.25	0.50

## RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule.....	12	1.00
Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule.....	12	1.00
Good Leonard Island.....	12	1.00

## LIQUEURS.

Benedictine.....	12	1.00
Maraschino.....	12	1.00
Heering's Cherry Cordial.....	12	1.00
Dr. Siebert's Angostura Bitters.....	12	1.00

## PRICES ON APPLICATION.

## THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

REOPENED AD. 1841.  
Hongkong, 20th January, 1893.

**BIRTHS.**  
At Peking, on the 3rd January, the wife of Mr. P. KIERULFF, of a daughter, stillborn.  
At 24, Nank'ng Road, Shanghai, on the 16th inst., the wife of B. WANSTALL, of a daughter.

## The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1893.

## THE LOAN ORDINANCE DEBATE.

Men only associate in parties, said RUSKIN, one of the most eminent of living critics, by sacrificing their opinions, or by having none worth sacrificing; and the effect of party government is always to develop hostilities and hypocrisies and to extinguish ideas. The solid truth of these, logical conclusions applied to the "party government" of the colony of Hongkong by an official majority will hardly be disputed after what took place when the Loan Ordinance was forced through the Legislative Council on the 11th inst. Nothing is more certain than that on the occasion referred to opinions were sacrificed, hostilities developed, and ideas extinguished, and also that some of the honorable official members held, or pretended to hold, opinions which were not worth sacrificing. However, the Ordinance was passed as officially drafted, in spite of the sound arguments and earnest protests of the unofficial members, who had to rest contented, for the time being at least, with the somewhat melancholy satisfaction of having quickly stripped Mr. Secretary O'BRIEN of his borrowed plumes and reduced him both as a practical financier and debater to the not too flattering position of a fallen idol. After the Colonial Secretary, in that never-to-be-forgotten classical oration on the Official Salaries question, had without word of warning launched out with characteristic vehemence and venom at his unofficial colleagues, he was at once elevated to the gods by the unthinking and ignorant, including our far-seeing local contemporaries, as being by far the best speaker and most effective debater our Council had known in recent years; his carefully prepared attack, bristling with rude personalities on his brother members, unsupported by either facts or arguments, was lauded as a rhetorical effort worthy of GLADSTONE or JOHN BRIGHT, and the poor orators were commiserated with, at their utter helplessness and their inability to cope in debate with the fiery Horspuz imported from Ceylon. The Hongkong Telegraph alone failed to recognise the new official's vaunted abilities either as an orator or as a man of cast-iron commonsense, and did not hesitate to say so in plain English. And, as usual, the Telegraph was right. At the Council meeting on the 11th inst. all the unofficial members who desired to speak were prepared; there was no chance of another successful ambush—and what was the result? We invite our readers to carefully read the published reports of the debate on the Loan Ordinance, and we do not hesitate to affirm, and we are prepared to prove our contention in a practical way, that the speeches of Messrs. CHATER, BRILLIOT and WHITEHEAD, the despised unofficials who, according to Mr. O'BRIEN, were both as administrators and debaters mere nonentities, left the Colonial Secretary stranded high and dry like an inverted turtle. Within living memory the records of the Hongkong Legislative Council can show nothing equal to the addresses of the three unofficial members above named, for logical and sensible reasoning on a great public question; nor can these records show anything feebler than the Colonial Secretary's attempt to controvert the most able speech in favor of the proposed loan being negotiated on a silver basis made by the hon. member who represents the Chamber of Commerce, nor anything in worse taste than the unfair and quite uncalled for references to Mr. CHATER's proposition to the Government last spring to assist the marine lot holders with a loan to facilitate the work on the Praya Reclamation.

Generally speaking, it is best not to dispute where there is no prospect of convincing your opponents, but in this particular instance the unofficial members did excellent service in placing the Loan question in all its phases so clearly before the community. Mr. CHATER was in favor of a loan to defray the cost of extraordinary public works, and he advocated a gold basis, but contended that the present time was a most unfavorable one for borrowing in gold and moved that the second reading of the bill be postponed for six months; Mr. BRILLIOT spoke strongly and with conspicuous ability against the principle and the necessity of the loan; Mr. WHITEHEAD most effectively showed by facts and figures that are unanswerable the advantages of borrowing in silver; but with these differences of opinion all three agreed that the present time was most inopportune for floating a loan. We have gone most carefully through the Colonial Secretary's lengthy speech, most of which was quite irrelevant to the question immediately under discussion, and we fall to either follow his arguments or to agree with his statistics. Now let us briefly refer to the circumstances which placed Hongkong in the market as a borrowing colony. It will be remembered that when Governor Potts Hammett left here a little over ten years ago there was, considering the small annual revenue compared with the returns since 1884, a handsome surplus in the Treasury, and the question of a loan being required had never been

raised. Under Mr. MARSH's feeble administration—"Honest Bill"—was a mere puppet in the experienced hands of the late Mr. F. BURKLEY JOHNSON, of JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., and Mr. Surveyor General JOHN MCNILL PATON—a number of more or less useless public works were taken in hand, of which the so-called Causeway Bay reclamation is a notable example. This improvement (Mr. Mr. PATON estimated would cost \$85,000, and this amount, he stated in Council, the Government would at once get back for building sites. It would be interesting to know what that reclamation actually did cost the colony and how much has been realised from it since its completion. At present it makes a fairly good polo ground, and there can be no doubt the construction of new roads and other improvements considerably increased the value of property at East Point. However, Governor HENNESSY's surplus quickly vanished, and in 1884 Sir GEORGE BOWEN first introduced the question of a loan. In opening the session for that year he addressed the Council as follows:—

"Hongkong is probably the only State or Colony of importance which at the present day is not only without a public debt, but which possesses assets nearly equal to its annual revenue. However, the existing balances will not be sufficient to carry out several public works, which are urgently required by this community. In addition to these, a strong and complete measure of sanitation, which Mr. Chadwick (the Civil Engineer recently sent out from England) has reported to be absolutely necessary for the immediate benefit of the public health. Under these circumstances, I concur with the Executive Council in what appears to be the general opinion of the Colony, viz., that the present generation of colonists ought not to be deprived of the advantages referred to, while it cannot, of course, be expected to defray the entire cost of works of a permanent and reproductive character; so that, consequently, it will be expedient to raise, on the exhaustion of the existing assets, a loan, not much exceeding the revenue of a single year. This question will not have to be decided in its details during the present Session; but I desire to elicit the opinion of the Council on the principle involved."

In their reply to Governor BOWEN's address the members of Council said:—

"We agree with your Excellency in the opinion that, in justice to the present generation of taxpayers in Hongkong, a moderate loan should be raised on the exhaustion of the existing assets, to defray a portion of the cost of those sanitary and other public works which are recognised as of permanent importance for the security of the general health and well-being of our population."

And the following year a loan of £200,000 was accordingly agreed on for extraordinary public works; and of this loan, as Mr. BRILLIOT stated the other day, £166,000, or say about \$1,235,350 at the present rate of exchange, still remains unpaid. To the broad principle advanced as a justification for a fresh loan, namely, that a future generation of taxpayers should pay a fair share for works of utility from which they will mainly benefit, no exception can be fairly taken, if it were shown that such works are, to use Mr. O'BRIEN's expression, "absolutely and immediately necessary." But is that actually the case? What are the public works extraordinary of such a pressing character? The Colonial Secretary mentions two only, the Praya Reclamation and the Gaol extension. Any expenditure on the Gaol will be opposed tooth and nail by the community, and we are unable to see any reason whatever for raising a loan to complete the Reclamation. It was only the other day that a piece of reclaimed ground near the Sailors' Home realised \$67,000 at public auction. Why should not this policy be adopted elsewhere—opposite the Recreation Ground and City Hall for instance—as the work of reclamation goes on? If another loan must be raised for special purposes, there certainly would seem to be no special hurry for it, and more especially in view of the unsatisfactory financial situation. Mr. BRILLIOT spoke very much to the point the other day in contending that no further public works should be undertaken until the colony had money to pay for them, as did Mr. F. D. SASOON seven years ago, when he strongly impressed on the Council the advisability of gradual and not impulsive improvements as far as public works were concerned, and that only by strict economy could the colony be brought back to its former satisfactory position and taxation reduced to a lower level. And Mr. SASOON's arguments form the key to the situation even now. A reduction of the official salaries to the old scale, an amalgamation of a number of highly paid offices, the abolition of all sinecures, and a general use of the pruning knife throughout every department of the Service would obviate the necessity for further loans and lead the way to a much needed reduction of taxation. The cost of administration in the colony has become scandalous. In 1892 ordinary expenditure was \$242,854, in 1893 it had risen to \$1,773,918, and for the current year it is estimated at \$1,899,611. The increase is abnormal and requires more official explanation than has yet been given. Of course the revenue has vastly increased, but why that fact, excepting as regards the Military Contribution and the interest on the first loan, should add so greatly to the annual expenditure is difficult to understand. According to Mr. Secretary O'BRIEN the complaint of increasing expenditure is one with which the Chancellors of Exchequers in growing communities are unfortunately only too familiar, and in most countries so circumstanced it is generally considered to be a matter for congratulation if the revenue also increases and it is found possible to confine the former within the latter.

That, we submit, is exceedingly weak logic and is no argument in favor of the dubious financial measure which the official phalanx have forced through the Council. But as HENNESSY'S SURPLUS puts it, "There is no political alchemy by which you can get golden conduct out of leaden instincts," and in the Hongkong Legislative Council, where official interests are involved, might is right.

## TELEGRAMS.

## THE STRIKE IN LANCASHIRE.

LONDON, January 21st.  
The condition of the Lancashire operatives is the worst known since the American war, and there is, at present, no prospect of a settlement of the dispute.

## SERIOUS RIOTS IN AMSTERDAM.

Serious riots of the Socialists and the unemployed have taken place in Amsterdam. The police charged the mob with drawn swords and many people were wounded.

## LOCAL AND GENERAL.

The Japanese Government has temporarily suspended the parcel post service between Singapore and Japan.

A NEW Club at Peking was formally opened by Colonel Denby, United States Minister, at the beginning of the present month.

Mr. R. W. Mansfield left Shanghai by the steamer *Hiryo* on the 17th inst. to assume the duties of Acting British Consul at Foochow.

The returns of the number of visitors to the City Hall Museum for the week ended Jan. 22nd, are:—Europeans, 162; Chinese, 1,655; total 1,817.

We are informed by the Agents of the Austrian Lloyd's S. N. Co. that the Company's steamer *Giulia*, from Bombay, left Singapore yesterday afternoon for this port.

The entrance fees for the forthcoming Hongkong Jockey Club race-meeting amount to over \$1,000—a great falling off from the good old days of four or five years ago.

According to recent statistics there are 40,000 doctors in practice in Japan. Last year diplomas were granted to 1879 medical students, and during the same period 875 practitioners died.

A REGULAR meeting of Victoria Lodge, No. 1026, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zealand Street, this evening, at 8.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are kindly invited.

The Superintendent of the P. & O. S. N. Co. informs us that the steamer *Pethawur*, with the English mail, left Singapore for this port at 8 a.m. to-day, and is expected here about noon on the 29th inst.

Mr. E. E. Abrahamson, well-known in this colony as the promoter and manager of tobacco planting and other enterprises in British North Borneo, arrived at Sandakan from a lengthy trip to England on the 5th ult.

The "Grand Panorama" in Duddell Street is still attracting large numbers of visitors, who are always well pleased with the show. Mr. Nafely has completely changed the series of views, and the new exhibition is open, as before, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.

HARMONIST'S Circus made a most successful opening in Manila on the 6th inst. and had crowded houses every night following. The Governor of the Philippines with a large party attended a "grand fashionable performance" on Friday (19th) and greatly admired the performance, as well as the wild beasts.

The steamer *Teniot*, which left Shanghai for Kobe on the 15th inst., had to put back on the 17th owing to a piece of machinery which formed a portion of her cargo having when the steamer was rolling about in the very heavy sea outside, knocked a hole in her side, which will necessitate her going into dock.

The N. C. Daily News of the 18th inst. reports that the Tugboat *Lightship* has had, for the first time on record, to be supplied with fresh water from Shanghai, the water at the mouth of the river being too brackish for use. This remark our contemporary, goes far to show how little water the Yangtze is bringing down just now.

As an instance of the tempestuous weather prevailing in the China Sea, it may be mentioned that the German steamship *China*, a good sea boat with fairly high engine power, took 15 days to reach here from Saigon; while several other steamers arriving to-day were also a long time coming up, and all report exceedingly violent gales and seas.

FROM Padang, on the west coast of Sumatra, destructive and wide-spread floods resulting from heavy rains at the close of December are reported. Great damage has been done to houses, property, crops, and means of communication, and some half dozen corpses have already been recovered. About 20 persons are estimated to have perished.

The following telegram appears in the *Pinang Herald* of 10th January, 1893:—Two European children yesterday of small-pox, caught from the railway to traffic by a native who whose two children were suffering from the disease. The proprietor will be prosecuted. The European names are Rawlin, Inspector of gharries, and North, an engine driver.

According to the *Shanghai*, a recent arrival who has just reached Tungchow from Shanghai, reports having heard that the railroad between the ocean steamers which used it first on Monday to be a very good one as far as regards depth of water, but very narrow; and, if two steamers met in it, one of them would have to go ashore. This shows the urgent necessity for the suggestion made on Monday, that the approach of a steamer from outside flying the "V" flag should be notified at the semaphore at what flags the steamers at Gough Island were flying. It is therefore sincerely to be hoped that the Harbour Masters department will reconsider its decision not to adopt this simple expedient towards making the Felma Channel a safer one to take.

SAYS the N. C. Daily News of the 18th inst. —Fears are entertained for the safety of the pilot boats *Hans* and *C. P. Blithen*. The former was seen yesterday morning some distance from the Tugboat *Lightship*. The whole of her foremast and the weight of this was pitching her down by the head, and she was pitching heavily into the sea, in which no boat could live, so that it was impossible to communicate with her, or take off the crew. An attempt is to be made to-day with a tugboat to trip her anchor and tow her out of danger, as it is feared that she will founder with all hands if the gale continues. The sea is so heavy that the steamers outward bound to Japan have had to take their pilots on with them. Nothing is known of the *Blithen*, but it is supposed to be an anchor shelter for the blizzard of Saturday night came on. The Tugboat *Lightship* is covered with ice.

THE steamers *Kuamun*, *Telemachus*, and *Tokuhi* *Maru* went through the Felma Channel, en route to Shanghai, on the 16th inst.

We are informed by the Agents of the Messageries Maritimes Co. that the Company's steamer *Sophia*, with the next French mail, left Saigon at 4 a.m. to-day, for this port.

At the Magistracy to-day, before Capt. Hastings a coolie was sent to gaol for six months for stealing 120 dried ducks. He probably wanted to see if they would swim on dry land.

THE return of warmer weather has brought a corresponding increase in the list of cases at the Police Court. Constables on duty have a less need to keep their hands in their pockets now.

According to telegrams received in Shanghai from Chfoo, the inner harbour of that port was frozen over on the 16th inst., and there was a heavy snowstorm. Consequently the steamers could not leave.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Co.'s Royal mail steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, arrived at Yokohama to-day, and will leave again to-morrow for this port, via Kobe, Nagasaki and Shanghai.

A COOLIE detected in the act of picking up sticks on Crown land out Pok-fai-lam way on Saturday was attacked by a "forest ranger," who ranged so furiously as to break the man's leg. The two men were brought before Mr. Wodehouse at the Magistracy this morning, when the custodian of Crown sticks was fined \$35.

The new dam at the Tai-koo colony, Quarry Bay, is still under repair. The water has been run off entirely, except for a few sprouts. It is hoped that the erection may be made perfectly tight, without having to pull it down and rebuild entirely; though as far as our knowledge goes, it seems to be a radical mistake to build such a big dam of concrete in such a short time.

DURING the recent cold weather, the Chinese market gardeners in the outlying districts of the island found their crops of vegetables attracted an unusual number of birds and deer. Two fine pheasants were shot at Kowloon last week, and several animals which are described as "musk deer" were caught not far from Shau-ki-wan. It will be news to many people that veritable foxes are quite numerous there.

WHAT is the price of beef? An assistant cook (Chinese) at the Kooloon barracks was caught yesterday trying to make off with 17 catties of r-giminated beef which he had wrapped about his wrist under his clothes. He was duly brought before the Magistracy to-day and sent to gaol for six weeks. As the beef is set down as "worth \$1.40," it would be interesting to know whether it was meant for the officers' mess or not.

FROM a well-informed correspondent at Peking our Shanghai morning contemporary learns that the Peking question is at present engrossing much of the attention of the Viceroy and Grand Secretary LI HUNG-chang, a sign that the Treaty Yamen takes an acute interest in it. There is an active demand on all sides for exact information on the geography and topography of Central Asia, and especially the so-called "Roof of the World."

THE *Streets Times* coolly suggests that the increase in Reuters' telegrams since the beginning of the year "may be due to visits from Mr. Arnold Reid in London." This is as feasible an invention as our Singapore contemporary's "largest circulation" fraud. The improvement in Reuters' messages is solely in consequence of the protests in the Hongkong Legislative Council against public funds being wasted for information that was practically worthless.

THE German steamer *Schwabe*, which arrived at Singapore from New Guinea on the 10th inst., reported the death of Captain Schmitt from malaria fever and *beriberi* during the voyage. The *Schwabe* picked up at sea a native boat containing 17 persons—twelve women, and five men—who were supposed to have drifted out from one of the Dutch islands. Five of these castaways died on the passage, the others being handed over to the Dutch Consul General at Singapore.

MR. WILLIAM FREAR, the famous "Frivolity" man, has arrived in Hongkong in the course of his tour through the Far East, and will give his celebrated monologue entertainment in the City Hall on Saturday and Monday next. Mr. Frear has been most highly complimented by the press in all parts of the world where he has given his amusing performance, and comes with the very best of credentials from dozens of princely patrons, as may be seen from our advertisement columns.

ONE of the "economies" by which Governor Robinson is trying to save the \$50,000 a year, is a very fair specimen of the kind, wrong-headed, cheapening, strain-at-a-screw, swallow-a-camel policy which he considers beyond the intelligence of the Unofficials who build up this Colony's huge trade. The members of the police force whose time will expire this year are entitled to pensions of various rates, but the Government is taking Shylock-like advantage of every excuse to dock them. Of course, the most common complaint—there is the bond, and the pound of flesh to follow; but it does seem a pity, men try to save a few dollars a month or so, when the cutting-down ought to be the biggest end and save thousands of dollars, wasted on men whose follies ought to be punished as justly as those of poorer men.

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SAINT GRANNY Sharp, of holy memory, who left the Police Court witness box this morning and swore that the driver of a gaily car, 3 had been guilty of cruelty to his pony on Saturday in Queen's Road, he had five "heavy" Chinamen inside, and the pony was "unusually small" apparently made no effort to go at all, but simply stood still, so the driver got off his perch and laid into the pony with a whip. Mr. Sharp at once interposed, told the passengers to get out (which they did), and then gave the driver a severe charge. The beating did not last half a minute, and the pony was not cut nor apparently hurt at all; but as it was not Mr. Sharp's own pony, that settled the matter. The driver was fined \$5, and Mr. Sharp warmly thanked by the soft-hearted and soft-headed magistrate. An order is issued that no gaily shall have more than four passengers at one time.

THE steamship *Sual* was aground at Olyphant Island, in the Yangtze, on the 18th inst.

THE Singapore *Free Press* hears that the Selangor Government are so struck with the money-earning capabilities of the Rawang extension railway, that they have resumed the contract of Mr. Murray Campbell, have paid off all claims on this account, and are to complete the line to Serendah and Kuala Kubu departmentally, putting on a large force of labour to hurry up the work. The Rawang trains are crowded, and the mining is in full swing all round the neighbourhood. At Sengel Beal, a newly opened and busy mining centre beyond Puduk, the deposits of Karang are of immense extent and thickness, and there is every sign that the tin production of Selangor is about to expand enormously.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council to be held on Wednesday, the 25th instant, at 3 p.m., the following will be the business:—  
Report of the Finance Committee, No. 1 of 1893.

## ORDERS OF THE DAY.

First reading of a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to provide for the establishment of a Volunteer Force and to empower the Governor to raise a special force of Coast Defence Volunteers in the event of an anticipated war."

Second reading of the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to provide means for ascertaining the amounts to be paid by way of compensation in respect of the Wharves and Piers along the line of the Praya Reclamation, to fix the periods for the payment thereof and for other purposes in connection therewith."

## HONGKONG SMOKING CONCERT CLUB.

Prepare for mirth, for mirth becomes a feast.

Shanghai.

The members of the Smoking Concert Club gave another of their enjoyable entertainments at the Theatre Royal, City Hall, on Saturday night, to a large and appreciative audience. Capt. W. C. H. Hastings, R.N., occupied the chair, and the general arrangement was directed by the Honorary Secretary, Dr. J. A. Lawson, and Mr. E. W. Mitchell, latterly to be desired. An excellent and varied programme, suited to all tastes, showed a host of local talent, and the concert proved an unequalled success.

After a few introductory observations from the Chairman, the ball was opened by the Band of the Shanghai Light Infantry playing a selection from "Camden" in their well known first-class style, the performance eliciting hearty applause from all parts of the Theatre. Following this, Mr. G. J. Lyman's pastime, which was heard to great advantage in Pissul's "Last Watch" the singer as usual displaying the excellent taste and technical accuracy of the cultured musician. This was followed by Mr. J. W. Boyd in the humorous Scotch song "The Laird o' Cockpen," who gave a pawky rendering of the old-fashioned ditty and was loudly applauded. Great amusement was caused by Lieut. F. C. Allenby, who sang in character a classical *monologue* by a composer bearing the euphonious name of Snooks and entitled "Where did you get that hat?" The chorus of the song, in which the audience participated wholesale, ran something like as follows (the singer, taking a post-lunch license, embellishing it slightly):

"Where did you get that hat?  
Where did you get that hat?  
Alas! it is a mystery!  
And quite the proper style,  
I should like to have one  
Just the same as that,  
Where did you get that hat?  
Where did you get that hat?"

Mr. Allenby was certainly in *mi-se*, and deserved the encore vouchsafed him. A banjo solo "The Knight of the March," by Carl Volpi, showed Mr. A. L. Valentini to be an accomplished pianist, and he was also most warmly enjoyed by the audience, who all distinguished himself in the recitative and all "Lend me your aid" from Ground's "Irene."

This gentleman possesses a rich baritone voice of good compass



Bill Irving, Lieut. Colonel Ravenhill, Lieut. Colonel Barrow, Mr. J. R. A., and Messrs. Gillies, Joseph and Leach.

The Chairman laid before the meeting the report of the sub-committee appointed to arrange the subscription list, as appended.

The Vice-Chairman as Chairman of the sub-committee explained that although some doubt existed whether the exact powers they thought it would expedite matters if they presented a report embodying recommendations as to the distribution of the fund.

It was decided that the memorial (obj. 2) should be left to a sub-committee consisting of his Excellency M. J. General Digby Barker, the Hon. J. B. McIlwain and Mr. H. H. Joseph, the Committee recommending a stained-glass window or mural tablet to be placed in the Cathedral Church provided the fee of \$100 be remitted by the Church Body.

The Committee further decided that the \$800 suggested by the sub-committee for obj. (C) should be apportioned as follows:—  
\$100 for rifle and ammunition for the Mandarin at Makung.  
\$300 to be sent to Consul Warren for distribution among the native priests and people at Felho.  
\$50 for binoculars to be presented to the Captain of the steamship *Thalia*, leaving a balance on this account of \$150. This balance the committee decided should be applied towards the erection of some memorial either on the spot where wreck occurred or at some other place at the discretion of the sub-committee to decide after communicating with Consul Warren. As yet no plus from this account, to be added if thought fit, to the \$500 devoted to the Hongkong memorial. Subject to these recommendations the report of the sub-committee was adopted.

The report is as follows:—  
The sub-committee appointed to arrange details as to the subscription list, &c., met at head quarters on Monday, January 19, 1893.

Present:—Major-General Barker (in the Chair), Mr. Justice Fielding Clarke, Messrs. Gillies, Lockhart and Leach.

Absent:—Mr. T. Davies (left the Colony).  
Mr. Lockhart submitted accounts of the subscriptions collected in Hongkong and Canton and the expenses incurred, and the honorary secretaries and treasurers were directed to have them audited by Mr. Nicollet before presenting to the general committee.

The sum for distribution collected locally and from Canton, less expenses, amounted to—  
The sum forwarded from Shanghai to—

In all, a grand total of—

Of this total, \$5,000.00 being the amount of the Shanghai subscriptions and \$100 collected locally and in Canton was assigned by the sub-committee to obj. (A), and \$1,765.31 was specially assigned to the relief of the widow and family of Major Turner, while a sum of \$10 was assigned to obj. (B), giving a total of \$7,765.31, assigned to obj. (B) and leaving a balance of \$7,165.34 for the general obj.

The sub-committee thought it desirable to make suggestions for the distribution of the fund, and accordingly they suggest that the following sum be assigned to the different objects (A), (B), (C), mentioned in the subscription list. (These obj. were stated in the subscription list in the following terms:—  
(A) The relief of those dependent for support upon residents in Hongkong who lost their lives in the shipwreck. (B) The erection of a suitable memorial of the catastrophe. (C) The relief of the families of the deceased. (D) The relief of the families of the deceased. (E) The relief of the families of the deceased. (F) The relief of the families of the deceased. (G) The relief of the families of the deceased. (H) The relief of the families of the deceased. (I) The relief of the families of the deceased. (J) The relief of the families of the deceased. (K) The relief of the families of the deceased. (L) The relief of the families of the deceased. (M) The relief of the families of the deceased. (N) The relief of the families of the deceased. (O) The relief of the families of the deceased. (P) The relief of the families of the deceased. (Q) The relief of the families of the deceased. (R) The relief of the families of the deceased. (S) The relief of the families of the deceased. 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The calls upon the fund under obj. (A) are, as far as the sub-committee is aware, as follows:—

The Mother of Dr. Lawson's servant.  
Mr. J. J. J.  
III. Captain Dunn's estate.  
IV. Mrs. Turner and family of 9 children.  
The sub-committee suggest the following apportionment:—  
To I. Mother of Dr. Lawson's servant. \$150.00  
II. Captain Dunn's estate. 1,000.00  
III. Mrs. Turner and family of 9 children. 200.00  
IV. The balance amounting to 10,484.34  
V. It will also be carried the sum specially subscribed, viz. 1,765.31  
\$14,929.60

The above suggestions if carried out would therefore make the total sum available for Mrs. Turner and family \$12,449.65.

The sub-committee suggest that any surplus from any special account should be added to the amount apportioned to Mrs. Turner and family.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT.

"BOKHARA" FUND.

To Subscriptions in Hongkong and Canton. \$9,363.81

Subscriptions in Shanghai. 5,000.00

Interest on Current Account in Hongkong. 9.04

\$14,372.85

By Cash Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. \$14,929.60

Telegram. 58.00

Expenses of Collection. 5.20

\$14,992.80

To Balance. \$14,929.60

Examined and found correct, HULBORN C. NICOLLE, Auditor.

(Sd) A. J. L. RICH, (Sd) J. H. STUART LOCKHART, HON. TREASURERS.

Hongkong, 18th Jan'y, 1893.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not necessarily endorse the opinions expressed by Correspondents in this column.)

## RACING AND BETTING IN BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."—  
SIR,—I should like to see a great favour if you would publish the following in a letter signed "B. B. B." and an article signed "Phillip" in the *B. N. B. Herald* on the gambling at the racetrack held here, by one who attended it and in fact took an active part in it.

"Phillip" asks if Sandakan is any better for the races. I very much doubt if any one can say whether or not Sandakan as a whole is improved thereby. The racing community, certainly say they have reason to feel more than satisfied with the result of two very successful meetings, and any one who is not a betting man, and is not prejudiced and ignorant outsiders who neither understand sport nor betting, and to whom the malcontents who, like "Phillip," see no harm in betting provided the betting is done in "Phillip's" way.

"B. B. B." appears to be a man who, though he did not start a pony himself, by watching the work of the various ponies and riders and proving or disproving the accuracy of his judgments would up by making a small book. He quite distinctly says that no amount paid by him exceeded \$35. By my own personal knowledge \$25 is a large bet for Sandakan. "Phillip" on the other hand is not a betting man, but not being content with leaving betting alone himself, he is one place likens betting men unto all that is contemptible and in the next says there is no fault in small sportsmen. So far as I can see he disapproves of betting and bookmaking because he understands neither, but would countenance a sporting bet, whatever that may be. I would say that if a man means to "do" you, he will, whether the bet is a booky one or an ordinary one. At one moment "Phillip" appears almost to merit the compliment paid him when "B. B. B." states that a position in a ladies' assembly as mistress would suit him. At the next, but there is barely possible to make out what "Phillip's" aim is.

One man bets, another man does not. The non-betting man slanders the other. "B. B. B." retorts with antiquated compliments and makes fun of "Phillip's" prudery; he does not always write to the point and a deal of his letter appears personal. However, "B. B. B." is tolerant and "Phillip" is not. "Phillip" unfortunately makes use of a number of remarks made or supposed to have been made by various people during the last meeting. As these remarks can only be attributed to certain men, their quotation is rather savoury of being personal. Any of the original remarks never meant them in the way "Phillip" interprets their meanings. No doubt a good deal of ill-feeling was caused over the races, but betting had but little to do with it. The manner in which the Club was formed, disintegrated, reformed and subsequently carried off by the original founder and his friends, caused ill-feeling long before a bet was made. At one time the very existence of the Club was threatened. The internal disputes were far more to the subject of betting amongst its members.

As to scratching a pony for a race, an owner has every right to do so. In my opinion the pony is in no way unfit to run. Merely because an outsider has backed a pony (probably at long odds) is an owner to run him with a game leg for the sake of that backer? Certainly not. No sporting man of any experience would do so, though it has been done in Sandakan. It certainly would savour of cheating were a man to give out that his pony (a good one) would start in a certain race and to scratch him at the eleventh hour, because it suited him. Such an owner would be liable to detection. Does "Phillip" mean that any one who scratched a pony at the last meeting did so to make money? No! even "Phillip" could not imagine such a thing. People like him should stipulate for a cy off in the event of one or both ponies not coming to the post, because one man feels inclined to bet one way I fall to see why every one should follow his example.

Further, "Phillip" apparently does not quite grasp the meaning of "a book" on a race. "A man bets, hedges, and bets again and so (does not) make a book. Either his first bet was too large. . . . add so he found himself obliged to bet again or deliberately laid himself out to make money." Did no other alternative present itself to "Phillip"? Might not some one pony so lame? Might not this influence me to hedge or cover my original bet? No man cares to lose a dollar or a bet even if he is worth \$5,000 a day. I might not the man with whom I hedge believe the pony will recover? Might it not? Might I not after all lose through hedging? There is no end to the possible chances in racing and no man worth calling a man is more pleased at winning \$5 to cover a single bet or a book, than he is at knowing his judgment is sound. There is far more luck in winning a single large bet and not half the judgment is required that is necessary in making a book to ensure winning half the amount. I agree with "Phillip" entirely when he says that to race for money only and to make a book for money alone are neither sportsmanlike nor honorable, but I fall to see how he can tax any single man in Sand



